

REMARKS

The election/restriction requirement dated July 8, 2005 holds that this application contains claims directed to six (6) patentably distinct species. More specifically, Applicants are required to elect one of the following patentably distinct species for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Species I - Figures 1-4;

Species II - Figures 5-7;

Species III- Figures 8-10;

Species IV - Figures 11-14;

Species V - Figures 15-18; and

Species VI - Figures 19-22.

Additionally, the Office Action indicates that there is no generic claim. However, Applicants believe that at least independent claims 1, 10 and 11 are generic claims.

In response, Applicants hereby elect the species illustrated in Figures 1-4 without traverse. Applicant believes that claims 1, 2, 10, 11 and 16-19 read on Figures 1-4 (Species I).

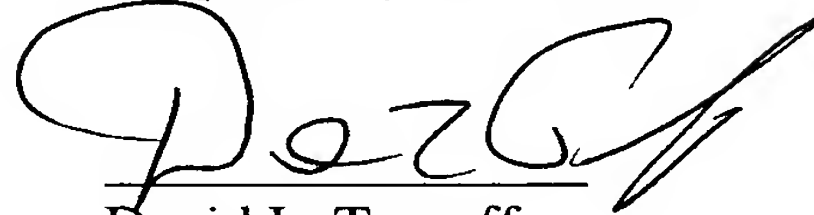
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of claims 1, 2, 10, 11 and 16-19 since they read on the elected species shown in Figures 1-4. Claims 3-9 and 12-15 are believed to be directed to a non-elected embodiment. Thus, these claims 3-9 and 12-15 can be withdrawn from consideration in this case. However, Applicants respectfully request that these non-elected claims be considered upon the allowance of a generic claim in accordance with U.S. patent practice.

Appl. No. 10/645,619
Amendment dated July 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 8, 2005

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Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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